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K-3794

TROJAN HORSE

NPIC/CSD-471/65

3 SEPTEMBER 1965

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SELECTED NEW LIFE RURAL HAMLETS  
WESTERN PLEIKU PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM

1. IN MARCH OF 1962, THE DIEM GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM, SUPPORTED BY THE UNITED STATES, INSTITUTED A PROGRAM OF REORGANIZING THE HAMLETS OF THE COUNTRY INTO FORTIFIED DEFENSIVE POSITIONS CALLED STRATEGIC HAMLETS.

2. THE PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGIC HAMLET PROGRAM WAS TO MOVE THE PEASANTS IN FROM THE VIET CONG-INFESTED COUNTRYSIDE TO THE FORTIFIED VILLAGES, THUS DEPRIVING THE ENEMY OF FOOD AND COVER AND PLACING THE ONUS OF ATTACK ON THE VC.

3. THE STRATEGIC HAMLET CONCEPT CALLED FOR THE BUILDING OF DEFENSE WORKS AROUND EXISTING VILLAGES -- MOATS, TRENCHES, WATCH TOWERS, BARBED WIRE AND EMPLACED BAMBOO SPEARS, ETC. EACH HAMLET WOULD TRAIN MEN (AND SOMETIMES WOMEN) IN PARAMILITARY TACTICS FOR DEFENSE OF THE VILLAGE. A CIVIL GUARD AND A SELF-DEFENSE-CORPS, COMPRISED OF INHABITANTS OF THE DISTRICT, WAS TO BE ORGANIZED AND TRAINED BY THE ARMY. WHEN THE TRAINING REACHED AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL, THE ARMY WAS TO MOVE OUT AND THE LOCAL UNITS WERE TO TAKE OVER. THE VILLAGE THEN BECAME KNOWN AS A "STRATEGIC HAMLET" (AND LATER AS A "NEW LIFE RURAL HAMLET"). PRIOR TO THE ARMY'S WITHDRAWAL, IT WAS CALLED A "SECURE HAMLET".

4. THIS GRAPHIC DEPICTS THE DETERIORATION OF THE HAMLET PROGRAM IN WESTERN PLEIKU PROVINCE SINCE LATE 1963.

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue.

GROUP 1  
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5. [ ] REVEALS AN ACTIVE STRATEGIC 25X1

HAMLET AT PLEI GIRAO M'NOU (INSTALLATION NO. 07/0077/A IN NPIC STRATEGIC HAMLET STUDY), UTM YA829237\*, TO CONTAIN FORTY BUILDINGS AND APPROXIMATELY SEVENTY-FIVE SHEDS AND HUTS. THE HAMLET IS SECURED BY A DOUBLE FENCE.

TROJAN HORSE [ ] REVEALS THAT THE SECURITY FENCING HAS BEEN REMOVED AND SEVERAL OF THE BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED OR DAMAGED. NUMEROUS BOMB CRATERS ARE OBSERVED.

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6. [ ] REVEALS AN ACTIVE STRATEGIC 25X1

HAMLET ONE NM NORTH-NORTHEAST OF PLEI P'NOUK (INSTALLATION NO. 07/0053/A), UTM YA950296\*, TO CONTAIN FORTY BUILDINGS AND SEVENTY-FOUR SHEDS AND HUTS. THE HAMLET IS SECURED BY A DOUBLE FENCE.

TROJAN HORSE [ ] REVEALS THAT THE DOUBLE FENCING HAS BEEN REMOVED AND ALL BUILDINGS RAZED.

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7. [ ] REVEALS AN ACTIVE STRATEGIC 25X1

HAMLET 1.4 NM EAST-NORTHEAST OF DINH DIEN LE KIM (INSTALLATION NO. 07/0059/A), UTM YA973396\*, TO CONTAIN ONE HUNDRED TWO BUILDINGS AND SEVERAL SMALL HUTS. THE HAMLET IS SECURED BY A DOUBLE FENCE.

TROJAN HORSE [ ] REVEALS THAT THE HAMLET HAS BEEN RAZED.

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\* UTM COORDINATES ARE BASED ON MAP SERIES L605 [ ] 25X1

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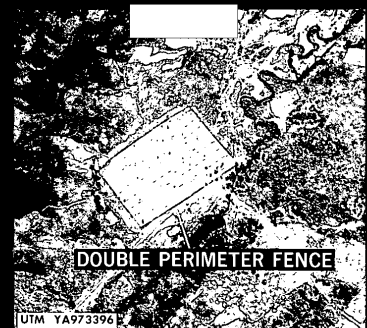
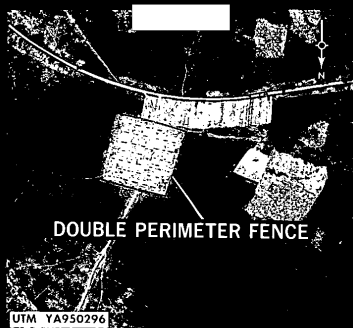
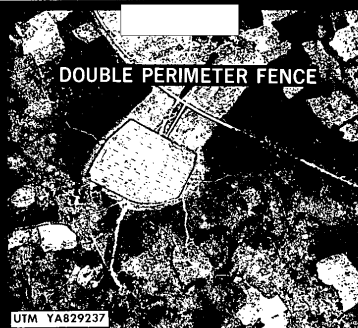
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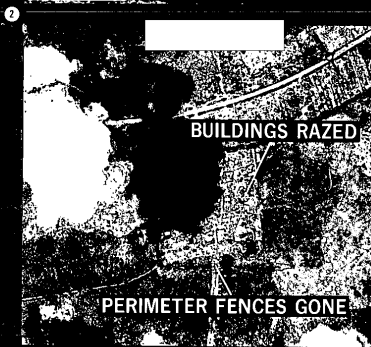
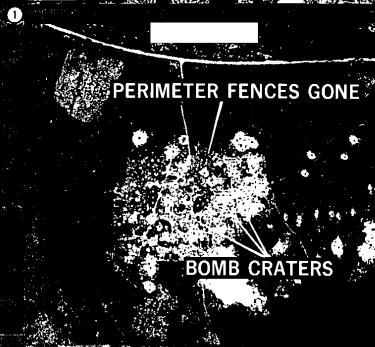
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WESTERN PLEIKU PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM**

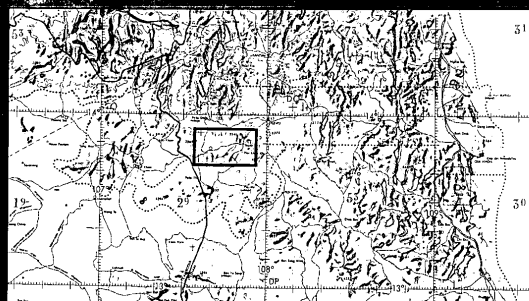
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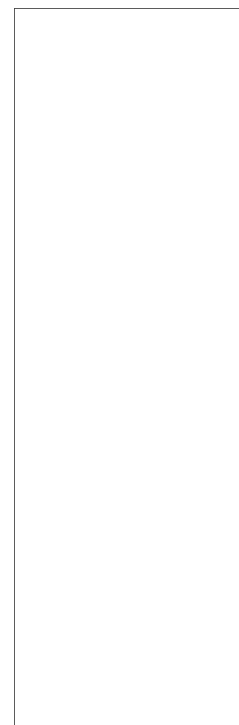


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